I Claim:

1. A method of creating a photocollage, including:

providing plural photographic images;

encoding each of the photographic images with a different steganographic message;

the steganographic messages serving to associate with each photographic image, information corresponding thereto; and

printing the encoded photographic images on a common page.

2. The method of claim 1 in which the information comprises data identifying a person associated with the corresponding photographic image.

3. The method of claim 2 in which the person is a photographer of the photographic image.

4. The method of claim 1 in which each message identifies a corresponding record in a database, each record including information specific to a corresponding photographic image.

5. The method of claim 1 in which the steganographic message conveys plural digital bits of information.

6. The method of claim 1 in which at least one of the steganographic messages is dispersed across the corresponding photographic image, rather than being localized in a limited portion.

7. The method of claim 1 in which each steganographic message is encoded in accordance with pseudo-random noise data.

8. The method of claim 1 in which each of the photographic images comprises pixels, and the encoding changes the luminance of a majority of the pixels of each photographic image.

9. A computer storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

10. A photocollage produced by the method of claim 1.

11. A storage medium having represented thereon a photocollage, the photocollage comprising: plural photographic images, each embedded with a different steganographic message; the steganographic messages serving to associate with each photographic image, information corresponding thereto.

12. The invention of claim 11 in which the information comprises data identifying a person associated with the corresponding photographic image.

13. The invention of claim 12 in which the person is a photographer of the photographic image.

14. The invention of claim 11 in which each message identifies a corresponding record in a database, each record including information specific to a corresponding photographic image.

15. The invention of claim 11 in which the steganographic message conveys plural digital bits of information.

16. The invention of claim 11 in which at least one of the steganographic messages is dispersed across the corresponding photographic image, rather than being localized in a limited region thereon.

17. The invention of claim 11 in which each steganographic message is encoded in accordance with pseudo-random noise data.

18. A method comprising encoding a photograph with a steganographic message, the message serving to identify a corresponding record in a database, the database record detailing information relating to the photograph.

19. The method of claim 18 in which the message comprises an index number.

20. The method of claim 18 in which the information relating to the photograph includes information identifying a person associated with the photograph.

21. The method of claim 20 in which the person is a photographer of the photographer.

22. The method of claim 18 in which the information relating to the photograph includes contact information, such as an address.

23. The method of claim 18 in which the steganographic message conveys plural digital bits of information.

24. The method of claim 18 in which the steganographic message is dispersed across the photograph, rather than being localized in a limited portion.

25. The method of claim 18 in which the steganographic message is encoded in accordance with pseudo-random noise data.

26. The method of claim 18 in which the photograph comprises pixels, and the encoding changes the luminance of a majority of the pixels.

27. The method of claim 18 in which the steganographic message is a code pre-exposed on emulsion media, onto which media a photographic image is later exposed.

28. A computer storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for performing the method of claim 18.

29. A photograph produced in accordance with the method of claim 18.

30. A storage medium, such as paper, film, or computer storage media, the storage medium having represented thereon a photograph, characterized in that the photograph is encoded with a steganographic message, the message serving to identify a corresponding record in a database, the database record detailing information relating to the photograph.

31. The invention of claim 30 in which the message comprises an index number.

32. The invention of claim 30 in which the information relating to the photograph includes information identifying a person associated with the photograph.

33. The invention of claim 32 in which the person is a photographer of the photographer.

34. The invention of claim 30 in which the information relating to the photograph includes contact information, such as an address.

35. The invention of claim 30 in which the steganographic message conveys plural digital bits of information.

36. The invention of claim 30 in which the steganographic message is dispersed across the photograph, rather than being localized in a limited portion.

37. The invention of claim 30 in which the steganographic message is encoded in accordance with pseudo-random noise data.

38. The invention of claim 30 in which the photograph comprises pixels, and the encoding changes the luminance of a majority of the pixels.

39. The invention of claim 30 in which the steganographic message is a code pre-exposed on emulsion media, onto which media a photographic image is later exposed.

40. A storage medium, such as film or computer storage media, having represented thereon a medical image embedded with a steganographic message, the message aiding in authentication of the medical image.

41. The invention of claim 40 in which the message aids in protecting the medical image against undetected tampering.

42. The invention of claim 40 in which the steganographic message is dispersed across the medical image, rather than being localized in a limited portion.

43. The invention of claim 40 in which the steganographic message is encoded in accordance with pseudo-random noise data.

44. The invention of claim 40 in which the medical image comprises pixels, and the encoding changes the luminance of a majority of the pixels.